

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendment and the following remarks.

Claims 1-2 and 4-25 were pending in this application. In the Final Office Action mailed December 2, 2004, claims 1, 11, 18, 20-21 and 24-25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,559,874 to Panosh ("Panosh"). Claims 2, 4-5, and 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Panosh in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,559,874 to Newell ("Newell"). Claims 6-10 and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Panosh in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,889,839 to Nataf ("Nataf"). Claim 13 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Panosh in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,991,881 to Conklin et al. ("Conklin"). Claim 14 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Panosh in view of Nataf and further in view of Conklin et al. Claims 22-23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Panosh.

Claims 15-17 were deemed allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In this Amendment, claims 6 and 10-15 have been cancelled. In accordance with the Examiner's suggestions, claim 1 has been rewritten to include all the limitations of claim 15, claim 1, and all intervening claims on which claim 15 depends. Claims 16 and 17 have each been rewritten in independent form to include all the limitations of claim 1 and intervening claims. Accordingly, amended claims 1, 16 and 17 should be in allowable condition.

Claims 4-5, and 7 have been amended to depend on allowable claims and correct matters of form. Claim 18 has been amended to depend on claim 17, and claims 19-25 have been amended to correct matters of form. At least for their dependency on allowable independent claims, claims 2, 4-5, 7-9, and 18-25 should be in allowable condition.

In view of the foregoing all of the claims in this case are believed to be in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner have any questions or determine that any further action is desirable to place this application in even better condition for issue, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone applicants' undersigned representative at the number listed below.

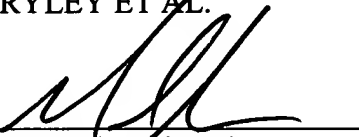
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Date: February 2, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

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